

ABSTRACT

A recording medium is provided wherein ~~a~~enabling type determination and writing possibility determination is enabled for various types of disks. Opening and closing ~~means~~ for openingstructure functions to open and ~~closing~~close a detection hole of a cartridge. The structure forms a plane substantially horizontal level with a reference plane of the cartridge at a position of ~~[[the]]~~a detection hole when the detection hole is in a closed state. The cartridge has at least a first detection hole and a second detection hole formed therein. The second detection hole (H1) is opened and closed by the opening and closing ~~[[means]]~~structure, and the first detection hole (H0) is in an open state at all times. ~~A disk drive apparatus or a disk determining method determines, together with a disk type, determining information contents (for example writing possibility) based on one or a plurality of detection holes formed in the cartridge, on the basis of an open/closed state of the detection hole and a result of the disk type using a signal based on reflected light from the loaded recording medium.~~